

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method in a computer system for displaying modeless windows, the computer system running an application, the method comprising:

displaying an application window having a client area;

within the client area, displaying a document window;

displaying a first modeless window and a second modeless window both wholly within the document window and anchored to an edge of the document window, the anchored first and second modeless windows each having at least collapsed and expanded states; and

when the first modeless window is in the collapsed state, displaying its identifier in a first visible region without displaying its contents;

when the second modeless window is in the collapsed state, displaying its identifier in a second visible region without displaying its contents;

when user input is received proximate to the first visible region of the first collapsed modeless window,

determining a preferred position of the first collapsed modeless window based upon its size in the an expanded state, the preferred position calculated to prevent the first modeless window in the expanded state from overlapping the second visible region of the second modeless window;

expanding the first collapsed modeless window so that it is in the expanded state and anchored to the edge of the document window based on the preferred position;

displaying information associated with the document within the expanded modeless window; and

when user input is received that is not proximate to the expanded first modeless window, collapsing the expanded first modeless window so that it is in the collapsed state.

2. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising updating information displayed in the expanded first modeless window to reflect a change in the information associated with the application changes.

3. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the expanded first modeless window has two or more non collinear sides, and wherein portions of a document displayed in the document window are displayed adjacent to at least two of the sides of the expanded first modeless window.

4. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein all modeless windows are wholly contained in the document window.

5. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the expanded first modeless window is a child window.

6. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the method further includes displaying a third modeless window in the document window and wherein the third modeless window contains information regarding the application.

7. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 6 wherein the expanded first modeless window and the third modeless window are non-overlappable.

8. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising changing the size of the expanded first modeless window in response to user input.

9. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 8, wherein the user input is via a pointing device.

10. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 9, further comprising:
expanding a collapsed modeless window when the input from the pointing device selects a display position that is near the modeless window; and

collapsing the expanded modeless window when the input from the pointing device selects a display position that is not near the modeless window.

11. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium whose contents cause a computer system that is running an application to display modeless windows by:

displaying an application window having a client area;
within the client area, displaying a document window;
displaying a modeless window in the document window and anchored to an edge of the document window, the anchored modeless window having at least collapsed and expanded states;

when the first modeless window is in the collapsed state, displaying its identifier in a first visible region without displaying its contents; and

when the second modeless window is in the collapsed state, displaying its identifier in a second visible region without displaying its contents; and

when user input is received proximate to the first visible region of the collapsed first modeless window,

determining a preferred position of the first collapsed modeless window based upon its size in ~~the an~~ expanded state, the preferred position calculated to prevent the first modeless window in the expanded state from overlapping the second visible region of the second modeless window;

expanding the first collapsed modeless window so that it is in the expanded state and anchored to the edge of the document window based on ~~its the~~ preferred position; and

displaying information associated with ~~regarding the document~~ application within the expanded modeless window; and

when user input is received that is not proximate to the expanded first modeless window, collapsing the expanded first modeless window so that it is in the collapsed state.

12. (Original) The computer readable medium of claim 11 wherein the contents of the computer-readable medium further cause the computer system to update information displayed in the modeless window as the information regarding the application changes.

13. (Original) The computer readable medium of claim 11 wherein the modeless window has two or more non collinear sides, and wherein portions of a document displayed in the document window are displayed adjacent to at least two of the sides of the modeless window.

14. (Original) The computer readable medium of claim 11 wherein the modeless window is a child window.

15. (Original) The computer readable medium of claim 11 wherein the contents of the computer-readable medium further cause the computer system to display a second modeless window in the document window and wherein the second modeless window contains information regarding the application.

16. (Original) The computer readable medium of claim 11 wherein the contents of the computer-readable medium further cause the computer system to change the size of the modeless window in response to user input.

17. (Currently Amended) The computer readable medium of claim 16 wherein the contents of the computer-readable medium further cause the computer system to receive the user input via a mousepointing device.

18. (Currently Amended) The computer readable medium of claim 17 wherein the contents of the computer-readable medium further cause the computer system to display modeless windows by:

expanding the modeless window when the input from the mouse-pointing device is near the modeless window; and

collapsing the modeless window when the input from the mouse-pointing device is not near the modeless window.

19. (Cancelled)

20. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~19~~1 wherein the user ~~movement command input~~ is a double-clicked mouse.

21. (Cancelled)

22. (Currently Amended) The ~~method~~computer readable medium of claim ~~19~~11 wherein the first modeless window is wholly contained in the document window.

23. (Currently Amended) The ~~method~~computer readable medium of claim ~~19~~11 wherein the first modeless window is anchored to an edge of the document window.

24. (Currently Amended) The ~~method~~computer readable medium of claim ~~19~~11 wherein the first modeless window is a child window.

25-41. (Cancelled)

42. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~36~~1 wherein ~~the method further includes displaying a second modeless window in the document window and wherein the second modeless window contains information regarding the application.~~

43. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~42~~1 wherein the first modeless window and the second modeless window are non-overlappable.

44. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~36~~1, further comprising changing the size-position of the second modeless window in response to user input.

45-47. (Cancelled)

48. (Currently Amended) The computer readable medium of claim ~~47~~11 wherein the contents of the computer-readable medium further cause the computer system to update information displayed in the modeless window as the information regarding the application changes.

49-56. (Cancelled)

57. (Currently Amended) The ~~method~~computer readable medium of claim ~~56~~11, further comprising changing a state of the first modeless child window responsive to additional user input.

58. (Currently Amended) The ~~method~~computer readable medium of claim ~~55~~11 wherein both modeless child windows are anchored windows.

59-61. (Cancelled)

62. (Currently Amended) The computer readable medium of claim ~~59~~11 wherein the contents of the computer readable medium further cause the computer system to close the first modeless child window responsive to other input received from the user and reopen in same position.

63. (Currently Amended) The computer readable medium of claim ~~59~~11 wherein the contents of the computer readable medium further cause the computer system to detach the modeless child window from the edge of the display window when directed by the user.

64-67. (Cancelled)